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Strengthening geospatial information management

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Note by the Secretariat

The Secretariat has the honour to bring to the attention of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management its report on strengthening geospatial information management. The report is available in the language of submission only from the website of the Committee of Experts (http://ggim.un.org/ggim_committee.html). The Committee of Experts is invited to take note of the report and to express its views on how the global geospatial information management community can actively contribute towards strengthening geospatial information management for Member States.

Summary of the report

In July 2016, the Economic and Social Council adopted resolution 2016/27 on strengthening institutional arrangements on geospatial information management, in which it recognized that the Committee of Experts had operated effectively and was well placed to continue to contribute to the work of the United Nations. In the resolution, the Council decided to strengthen and broaden the mandate of the Committee and invited the Committee to report on all matters relating to geography, geospatial information and related topics. It also stressed the need to strengthen the coordination and coherence of global geospatial information management, in capacity-building and norm-setting. The Council noted the increasing role and relevance of the Committee in streamlining the bodies of the Council on geospatial information management matters and requested that the Committee report back to the Council, no later than in five years' time, on the implementation of the resolution.

In the report, prepared with the assistance of the Bureau of the Committee of Experts on Global Geospatial Information Management, the Secretariat, cognizant of the request of the Council to report back within five years, informed the Committee of its efforts to take practical and strategic actions to implement the

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resolution and strengthen geospatial information management for Member States. In the report a strategic framework is presented and described as a starting point for discussion towards a strategic plan and road map that will enable the Committee to be better supported by the regional committee architecture and the regional commissions and to continue to work on global policies for geospatial information management in tandem with producing tangible outputs such as norms, handbooks, methodologies, standards and guidelines.